

10/510931
DT04 Rec'd PCT/PTO 08 OCT 2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-13 (Cancelled)

Claim 14 (new): An emitter tube suitable for an irrigation system, said tube formed from a resiliently flexible material including a base inlet end adapted to be mounted and a free outlet end adapted to be un-mounted, said tube further including a base section adjacent to the base inlet end and an end section downstream from said base section,

wherein said end section has greater flexibility than said base section; and

wherein, with a liquid flowing at a sufficient rate through said emitter tube, hydraulic forces exerted by the flowing liquid on said emitter tube cause said outlet end to move continuously.

Claim 15 (new): The emitter tube according to claim 14, wherein said base section of said emitter tube has a wall thickness which is greater than a wall thickness of said end section.

Claim 16 (new): The emitter tube according to claim 15, wherein the wall thickness of said emitter tube tapers from said base section to said free outlet end.

Claim 17 (new): The emitter tube according to claim 15, wherein the wall thickness of said emitter tube is stepped at one or more intervals along its length so as to progressively reduce in wall thickness.

Claim 18 (new): The emitter tube according to claim 14, wherein an outer diameter of said emitter tube is substantially constant, while an inner passage of said emitter tube tapers from a large diameter at said base inlet end of said emitter tube to a smaller diameter at said outlet end.

Claim 19 (new): The emitter tube according to claim 14, further comprising:

an intermediate section disposed between the base section and the end section, wherein said intermediate section is of greater flexibility than said base section.

Claim 20 (new): The emitter tube according to claim 19, wherein said end section has greater flexibility than said intermediate section.

Claim 21 (new): The emitter tube according to claim 19, wherein said intermediate section defines a waist portion of reduced diameter.

Claim 22 (new): The emitter tube according to claim 14, wherein an inner diameter of said emitter tube remains substantially constant while the outer profile of said emitter tube reduces in wall thickness from said base section towards said outlet end.

Claim 23 (new): The emitter tube according to claim 14, wherein said tube has an overall length of approximately 177mm, an outer diameter at said base inlet end of approximately 10mm, and an outer diameter at said outlet end of approximately 6 mm.

Claim 24 (new): The emitter tube according to claim 23, wherein said emitter tube tapers evenly between said base inlet end and said outlet end.

Claim 25 (new): The emitter tube according to claim 23, wherein the inner diameter of said emitter tube is an approximately constant 5mm along the length of said emitter tube.